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EDITORIAL

Heart Review series

We are pleased to announce a new venture for *Heart*, the ''Heart Review''. We are going to commission a series of review articles from recognised authorities in their respective fields, mainly utilising the considerable expertise of our editorial board members. Whereas editorials are generally linked to articles published in the journal and the education series provides a learning template from more established wisdom, linked to the cardiology curriculum for trainees, this new series will bridge the gap between the two. The reviews are designed to give the reader an authoritative assessment of a contemporary subject area with focused, up to date references and will be published online first. We will still accept other reviews of outstanding quality, as before, but hope that this innovation will provide the reader with valuable insights into a wide variety of topical subjects. As ever, we are keen to receive feedback on this or any other aspect of the journal.

IMAGES IN CARDIOLOGY

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Arterial tortuosity syndrome in a newborn

A newborn was referred to our department for suspected cardiac malformation because of an abnormal elongation of pulmonary arteries detected on the prenatal echocardiography. On postnatal examination, the child presented with downslanting palpebral tissue, overfolded helices, cutis laxa, and joint laxity. Skin fibroblasts, molecular analysis, and lymphocyte chromosome showed no evidence of connective tissue disorder such as Ehlers-Danlos type IV syndrome or deletion of an elastin gene on chromosome 7. Angiography confirmed the presumptive echocardiographic diagnosis of arterial tortuosity syndrome (ATS), revealing a generalised tortuosity and elongation of all major arteries (panels A–C; to view video footage visit the *Heart* website—http://www.heartjnl.com/supplemental).

ATS is a newly defined genetic syndrome in which is found arterial tortuosity associated with hyperextensible skin and hypermobility of joints. While alteration of elastic fibres is suggestive of a connective tissue disorder, little is known about the underlying genetic cause and the clinical evolution of this disorder. The mode of inheritance seems to be autosomal recessive. Recently a locus was identified at chromosome 20q13.

To access video files visit the *Heart* website—http://www.heartjnl.com/supplemental

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